

NIP-266-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

H. INOUE et al.

Serial No. 10/658,465

Group Art Unit: 3746

Filed: September 10, 2003

Examiner: Michael Kocz Jr.

For: GAS TURBINE COMBUSTOR AND OPERATING METHOD THEREOF

**SUBMISSION OF EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE OF JAPANESE REFERENCES
AND REQUEST FOR INITIALED PTO-1449 FORM**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 10, 2004

Sir:

In the Office Action dated June 18, 2004, the Examiner did not initial consideration of Japanese References JP 5-172331 and JP 2001-263093 because these references were not in the English language and no explanation of the relevance of the references was filed.

Attached is an explanation of the relevance of JP 5-172331 and JP 2001-263093 as well of a further explanation of the reference "Development of Combustor LNG. Oxygen Firing" as filed in parent Application Ser. No. 10/083,360.

It is further noted that the JP 5-172331 reference is discussed on page 1 of the specification.

Applicants hereby respectfully request that Japanese references JP 5-172331 and JP 2001-263093 be considered by the Examiner and the initialed PTO-1449 Form be returned.

A clean copy of PTO-1449 Form is attached.

While it is not believed any additional fees are necessary since the Japanese references were filed prior to receipt of the first Office Action on the merits, if any additional fees are necessary please charge the same to Deposit Account No. 50-1417.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: September 14, 2004

EXPLANATION

JP 5-172331:

It discloses diffusion combustion technique of a gas turbine that is the same technical field as the present invention. However, the reference does not take into consideration NOx reduction and combustion stability. Further, it does not disclose the concept of coaxial jet flows of fuel and air injected into the combustion chamber.

JP 2001-263093

It was filed (March 17, 2000) before the priority date (August 29, 2001) of the present application, and laid-opened after the priority date (August 29, 2001) of the present application.

The reference relates to a specific gas turbine combustor in the case where methane is used as fuel. The combustor is a type wherein methane and oxygen (oxidizer) are coaxially jetted into the combustion chamber and carbon dioxide gas is recovered.

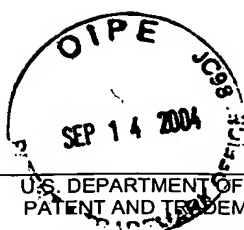
The reference discloses coaxial jet of two kinds of medium, but it does not disclose the concept that usual gas turbine fuel and air are jetted to be coaxial jet flows.

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• Development of Combustor LNG. Oxygen Firing

It is a document for presentation concerning the above-mentioned JP 2001-263093 and presented (January 5, 2001) before the priority date (August 29, 2001) of the present application. The content is the same as JP 2001-263093.

FORM PTO-1449
(REV. 7-80)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

NIP-266-03

SERIAL NO.

LIST OF DOCUMENTS CITED BY APPLICANT
(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT

H. INOUE et al

FILING DATE

September 10, 2003

GROUP

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

* EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE (If Appropriate)
	AA					
	AB					
	AC					
	AD					
	AE					
	AF					
	AG					
	AH					
	AI					
	AJ					
	AK					

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
✓	AL	5-172331	07/09/93	Japan			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
✓	AM	2001-263093	09/26/01	Japan			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AN						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AO						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AP						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AR		
	AS		
	AT		

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

✓ Did not receive